

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 3, 2007. Claims 19-41 are currently pending in the subject application. Claims 19, 27, 33, 35, 37 and 38 have been amended. Support for all amended claims can be found in the specification, and no new matter has been added by these amendments. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 19-23, 25, 26, 29, 30 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,914,719 issued to *Herz*. Without conceding the merits of the rejection, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is overcome.

Claim 19, as amended, recites in part "determining a search parameter in a first data format component of the multimedia signal, the multimedia signal including the first data format component and a second data format component; [and] searching the multimedia signal to identify an occurrence of the search parameter in the first data format component of the multimedia signal."

The Office Action states that *Herz* teaches this feature of Applicant's invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees. *Herz* teaches a host processor that displays a request for search terms. The host processor receives the user selected search term, and then scans the text records for records matching the search terms. (Column 5, lines 22-26).

In contrast, in Applicant's invention, a closed caption signal is monitored by an agent software. The agent automatically looks for specific words or phrases in one format (e.g., text) that trigger a speech recognizer to watch for that word in another format (e.g., audio). (See specification page 10, last paragraph). This is different than scanning text records for a user selected search term.

Neither *Herz* nor any of the other cited references, alone or in combination, teach all of the features recited in independent claim 19. Specifically, *Herz* does not teach "determining a search parameter in a first data format component of the multimedia signal." For

at least this reason, claim 19 is allowable over the cited art, as are claims 20-23, 25 and 26, which depend from claim 19.

Independent claim 29 recites features that are similar to the features recited in amended claim 19. Specifically, claim 29 recites, in part, "analyzing a first data format component of the multimedia signal to identify an occurrence of a search parameter." As discussed above with reference to claim 19, the cited art does not teach this feature. Thus, claim 29 is also allowable over the cited art for at least the same reasons. Claims 30 and 32 depend from allowable claim 29 and derive patentability therefrom.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 19-23, 25, 26, 29, 30 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected claims 24, 31, 37, 40 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Herz*. The Office Action also rejected claims 27, 28, 33-36, 38 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Herz* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,809,471 issued to *Brodsky*. Without conceding the merits of the rejection, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is overcome.

Claim 37, as amended, recites in part "determining a search parameter in the multimedia signal."

As discussed above with reference to claim 19, *Herz* teaches a host processor that displays a request for search terms, receives the user selected search term, and then scans the text records for records matching the search terms. This is different than "determining a search parameter in the multimedia signal."

Neither *Herz* nor any of the other cited references, alone or in combination, teach all of the features recited in independent claim 37. Specifically, *Herz* does not teach "determining a search parameter in the multimedia signal." For at least this reason, claim 37 is allowable over the cited art, as are claims 38-41, which depend from claim 37.

Claims 27 and 28 depend from claim 19 (either directly or indirectly), claims 33-36 depend from claim 29 (either directly or indirectly), and claims 38 and 39 depend from claim 37. The rejection of claims 27, 28, 33-36, 38 and 39 is premised on the assertion that *Herz* discloses the features recited in claims 19, 29 and 37, and *Brodsky* discloses the remaining features of claims 27, 28, 33-36, 38 and 39.

As discussed above, however, *Herz* does not disclose or suggest all features recited in claims 19, 29 and 37. As best understood, *Brodsky* does not provide any teaching or suggestion that would remedy this deficiency. Therefore, the rejection cannot be maintained. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 27, 28, 33-36, 38 and 39.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 24, 27, 28, 31 and 33-41 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Application No. 09/841,327
BRADLEY JAMES WITTEMAN
Reply to Office Action of January 3, 2007

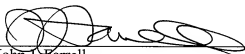
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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206-467-9600.

Respectfully submitted,

5/2/07

Date



John J. Farrell
Reg. No. 57, 291

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
206-467-9600 Telephone
415-576-0300 Facsimile

JJF:clm

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